

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA San Diego, California

***United States Attorney
Karen P. Hewitt***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - October 15, 2007

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Manuel Tiscareno-Renteria was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego by the Honorable Larry A. Burns to serve 78 months in prison, following Tiscareno-Renteria's conviction by a federal jury on May 26, 2007, of maliciously causing damage, by fire, to the Congregation Beth Am Synagogue, located at 5050 Del Mar Heights Road in San Diego on October 11, 2003. Judge Burns also ordered Tiscareno-Renteria to pay \$6,000 in restitution to the synagogue.

According to the evidence presented at trial, Tiscareno-Renteria used gasoline and an open flame to set fire to the synagogue complex. The Temple grounds sustained structural damage. No injuries to persons resulted from the fire. Tiscareno-Renteria was convicted for the second time after his original conviction from May 2004 was overturned on appeal.

United States Attorney Hewitt praised the efforts of the Metro Arson Strike Team, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the San Diego and Oceanside Police Departments who investigated this case.

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 04cr0138-LAB

Manuel Tiscareno-Renteria

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

Title 18, United States Code, Section 844(i) (Malicious damage to a building used in interstate commerce)

AGENCIES

Metro Arson Strike Team
Federal Bureau of Investigation
San Diego Police Department
Oceanside Police Department